

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD JANUARY 26, 2016

Pursuant to rules of Council of the Town of Westfield, the members thereof convened in regular session Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Skibitsky made the following announcements:

“Prior to convening in regular session, there was an agenda session which was open to public and advertised.”

“The adequate notice of this meeting as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, was provided by the posting, mailing and filing of the annual notice of regularly scheduled meetings of the Town Council on December 17, 2015. The notice was, on that date, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, mailed to THE WESTFIELD LEADER, AND THE STAR LEDGER, and filed with the Clerk of the Town of Westfield.”

PRESENT: Mayor Skibitsky, Council Members Neylan, LoGrippto, Loughlin, Della Fera, Oliveira, Stokes

ABSENT: Council Members Arena, Kimmins

Invocation was given by Councilwoman Neylan

PRESENTATIONS

Rabbi Sagal from Temple Emanu-El and Deirdre Gelinne from The Westfield United Fund spoke about The Lavy House, senior resource center

Mayor Skibitsky presented the following proclamation:

Town of Westfield

Westfield, New Jersey

PROCLAMATION

2015 Westfield High School Blue Devils Football Team

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2015, the Westfield High School Blue Devils football team won the New Jersey North Section 2, Group 5 State Championship in an exciting 10 – 7 nail-biter at MetLife Stadium over the first seed Bridgewater-Raritan Panthers; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Devils finished their state championship season with an unbeaten record of 12 – 0 and were crowned the Mid State 38 Conference Watchung Division Champions, earning the rankings of #6 in the entire state by the NJ.Com Poll, #12 in the Tri-State Area by MSG Varsity, #1 for all Group 5 Schools, and #1 for all Mid-State 38 teams; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Coach Jim DeSarno, named the 2015 Mid-State 38 Coach of the Year, and Assistant Coaches Ken Miller, Joe Avina, Dave Hancock, Sam Haimann, Matt Andzel, Owen Brand, Don Dayon, Don Casset, and Bill Melliott, and trainers, Chris Flores and Nicole Castellano, the football players represented their team, their school and their hometown with the highest standards of athleticism, integrity and sportsmanship; and

WHEREAS, all of the members of the team ~ Captains Brett Robertshaw, Jack Curry, and Michael O'Connor; Seniors Jacob Kurstedt, Sid Douglas, Jelani Pierre, JD Marner, Owen Colwell, Zach Kelly, Chris Varano, Steven Barmakian, James Hoodja, Brendan Collum, Devin Zrebiec, Erik Swanson, Timothy Norris, Tom Morley, Robby Suriano, Chris Boutsikaris; Juniors Thomas Fuccillo, Jack Shirk, Connor Scanlon, Ishmael Glasco, Michael Moriarty, Philip Martini, Ian Humphrey, Kyle Dombrowski, Matt Varano, Kyle Shirk, Coston O'Brien, Jake Kaplan, Ethan Bandelli, Jeffrey Gagum, Ben Kelly, Michael Gagliardi, Nicholas Maher, Max Schwetje, Owen Kessler, Matt Harris, Connor Root, William Swartz, Brett Spass; Sophomores Jake Lerie, Sean Dwyer, Jake Vall-Llobera, Juandre House, Adam McDaniel, Anthony DiBella, Jacob Obsgarten, Eric Knauss, Shea Elliott, Ben Buontempo, Jacob Dayon, Drew Ortiz, Russell Weber, Joe SanGiacomo, Casey Scheper, Isaiah Reese, Fran Alliegro, Jordan Barham, Chris Culhane, Michael Juchnik, John McCauley, Isaac Montez, Rory McGovern, Steven Barden, Aidan Boland, Robert Juchnik, Robert Brown, Payton Schle Witt; and Water Boy Gabe Dayon and Water Girl Rebecca Dayon ~ are deserving of recognition for their individual efforts as well as for their contributions to the success of the team; and

WHEREAS, the offense piled up an average of 34.3 points per game while the defense held opponents to an average of less than 9 points per game and never surrendered more than 14 points in any game, such outstanding performances no doubt contributed to the Blue Devils being named the 2015 Mid-State 38 Team of the Year and seventeen players earning honors ranging from Honorable Mention All-Conference to All-Conference, to All-Area, to All-Group and to All State; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Westfield wish to commend the coaches and the players of the Westfield High School Blue Devils football team for their sportsmanship and many successes during the 2015 season;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Mayor Andrew K. Skibitsky, on behalf of the Town Council and the good citizens of the Town of Westfield, on this twenty sixth day of January, two thousand and sixteen, do hereby congratulate the 2015 Westfield High School Blue Devils Football Team on their successful season capped by capturing the New Jersey North Section 2, Group 5 State Championship title and do hereby applaud them for their exceptional dedication to the sport and to sportsmanship.

Mayor Skibitsky read the following individual honors:

NAME	ACHIEVEMENT
Jack Curry	NJFCA Super 100, 1st Team All-State All Groups , 1 st Team All State Group 5, Courier Offensive Player of the year, 1 st Team All Area, 1 st Team All-Conference
Tom Morley	All-Area 1 st Team, 1 st Team All-Conference
Owen Colwell	3rd Team All State All Groups , 1 st Team All State Group 5, All-Area 1 st Team, 1 st Team All-Conference
Owen Kessler	3rd Team All State All Groups , 1 st Team All State Group 5, All-Area 1 st Team, 1 st Team All-Conference
Chris Boutsikaris	1 st Team All-Conference, 2 nd Team All-Area
Steve Barmakian	1 st Team All-Conference, 2 nd Team All-Area
Ishmael Glasco	1 st Team All-Conference, 2 nd Team All-Area
Michael O'Connor	1 st Team All-Conference, 3 rd Team All-Area
Jack Shirk Jelani Pierre Brett Spass Nick Maher Brett Robertshaw Jacob Kurtstedt Kyle Dombroski	2 nd Team All-Conference 2 nd Team All-Conference 2 nd Team All-Conference 2 nd Team All-Conference 2 nd Team All-Conference 3rd Team All State Group 5 , 2 nd Team All-Conference 2 nd Team All-Conference

Mike Moriarty Sid Douglas	Honorable Mention All-Conference Honorable Mention All-Conference
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APPOINTMENT

ADVERTISED HEARINGS

PENDING BUSINESS

BIDS

MINUTES

On a motion by Councilman Della Fera, seconded by Councilman LoGrippe, Council approved the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held January 12, 2016

On a motion by Councilman Loughlin, seconded by Councilman Stokes Council approved the Minutes of the Conference Session held January 12, 2016

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

OPEN DISCUSSION BY CITIZENS

Andy Lui, 925 Brown Avenue spoke about the recent house burglaries that have taken place in his neighborhood, his being one of them. He also mentioned seeing suspicious cars on or around his block during various times of the day and then leaving. He also was looking for ways to improve the situation.

Trisha Chen, 528 Birch, a new resident to Westfield, also spoke about being a victim to the recent burglaries in the area. She was concerned for her family, and the well-being. She also mentioned ways to improve security measures such as more police on walking the streets, and security cameras.

Mayor Skibitsky advised all residents if they see something suspicious to immediately contact the police department.

Chief David C. Wayman told the residents the Westfield Police Department offers neighborhood meetings with officers to gather safety tips and precautions for the residents.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Introduced by Councilwoman Neylan, seconded by Councilman Loughlin were adopted with Councilman Loughlin abstaining on Loughlin Law Firm

RESOLVED that the bills and claims in the amount of \$354,194.56 per the list submitted to the members of this Council by the Chief Financial Officer, and approved for payment by the Town Administrator be, and the same are hereby, approved and that payroll warrants previously issued by the Chief Financial Officer be ratified.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Finance Policy Committee

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilwoman Neylan, Chairman of the Finance Policy Committee, seconded by Councilman Della Fera were unanimously adopted.

(29) RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to draw a warrant in the amount of \$6,000.00 to the order of the United States Postal Service to replenish postage meter to process the Town's daily mail.

(30) WHEREAS, there is a need to communicate information to the public in the form of tax assessment notices to the property owners, and

WHEREAS, payment for the postage to the United States Postal Service is required prior to the mailing of the assessment notices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to prepare warrants for postage payment in an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00 charged to the Tax Assessor's postage account.

(31) RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer be and she hereby is authorized to draw warrants to the order of the following persons, this amount being taxes overpaid in 2015:

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>PROPERTY ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
201/4	171 Madison Avenue West	\$ 682.52
DANKOWSKI, Jacek & Iwona		
32 Rutgers Avenue		
Colonia, NJ 07067		
301/7		
SALMOND, William & Susan	17 Barchester Way	\$ 905.10
1104/11		
Goldman, William Ryan	570 Lawrence Avenue	\$5,756.72
1406/2		
NISLEY, Richard S and Cynthia B	711 Woodland Avenue	\$4,819.73
1904/6		
DELVECCHIO, Thomas J & Stacey Rae	219 Golf Edge	\$16,413.28
2103/7		
TINKLER, Marc & Kelly	880 Winyah Avenue	\$5,932.14
2203/6		
HERMAN, David C & SEELEY, Sue	244 Canterbury Road	\$5,123.51

2815/25

LASCOLEA, Bradley & Gabrielle 719 Austin Street \$ 258.41

2904/12

HEUER, Charles & BOUHOURS, Monique 513 Dorian Place \$ 57.52

3902/15

SHORE, Mark & Allison 50 Michael Drive \$ 172.65

5107/6

GAINES, Brandt C & Paige W 1272 Summit Avenue \$7,205.00

5504/2

WHITMAN, Andrew E & Victoria L 74 Summit Court \$3,634.59

(32) RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to issue warrants noted below to the order of the Downtown Westfield Corporation for Special District Taxes as provided in the year 2016 budget:

February 1, 2016 \$102,401.25

May 1, 2016 \$102,401.25

(33) WHEREAS, the Town Council passed General Ordinance No. 2034 pursuant to which Sections 20-23 and 20-25 of the Town Code were amended and a schedule of maximum annual sewer user fees for properties in the Town was established; and

WHEREAS, the sewer user fee for a single-family residence was set to not exceed \$195.00 per annum; and

WHEREAS, the sewer user fee for commercial and industrial properties was set to not exceed \$875.00 per annum; and

WHEREAS, the sewer user fee for each multi-family unit on a property was established to not exceed \$125.00 per annum; and

WHEREAS, Section 20-25 of the Town Code provides that by February 24 of each year, the Town Council, by resolution, shall determine the exact sewer fee for the then calendar year, subject to the maximum amounts set forth in Section 20-23; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has received notice of the sewer charges imposed by the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority and wishes to establish the sewer fees for the calendar year 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the following sewer fees are hereby established for the calendar year 2016:

- a. The sewer user fee for a single-family residence shall be \$170.00.
- b. The sewer user fee for a commercial and industrial property shall be \$315.00.
- c. The sewer user fee for each multi-family unit on a property shall be \$100.00.

(34) BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Attorney is hereby authorized to sign a Stipulation of Settlement, pursuant to which the assessment for the property located at 433-437 North Avenue East (Block 3201, Lot 13) for the year 2014 shall be changed to \$313,500.00

(35) BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Attorney is hereby authorized to sign a Stipulation of Settlement, pursuant to which the assessment for the property located at 574 Springfield Avenue (Block 1701, Lot 8) (a) for the year 2011 shall be changed to \$1,067,500.00, (b) for the year 2012 shall be changed to \$1,068,300.00, and (c) for the year 2013 shall be changed to \$1,076,500.00.

(36) BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Attorney is hereby authorized to sign a Stipulation of Settlement, pursuant to which the assessment for the property located at 115 Mountain Avenue (Block 2405, Lot 16) for the years 2014 and 2015 shall be changed to \$793,300.00 and for the years 2016 shall be changed to \$653,200.00.

The following resolution, introduced by Councilwoman Neylan, seconded by Councilman Oliveira was adopted by the following roll call vote:

(37) RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer be and he is hereby authorized to make the following transfer(s) in the 2015 Budget (Appropriation Reserve) accounts:

	<u>OUT</u>	<u>IN</u>
<u>CURRENT FUND</u>		
ADMINISTRATION		
5-01-100-209 OTHER EXPENSES (O/E)		5,000
TAX COLLECTOR		
5-01-105-251 (O/E)	1,500	
FIRE		
5-01-125-101 SALARIES & WAGES (S&W)	21,000	
5-01-125-225 (O/E)		1,000
POLICE		
5-01-130-101 SALARIES & WAGES (S&W)	16,000	
PUBLIC WORKS		
5-01-137-246 (O/E)		20,000
ELECTRICITY		
5-01-166-211 (O/E)		10,000
TELEPHONE		
5-01-168-211 (O/E)		2,500
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	\$38,500	\$38,500

Yeas: Neylan
LoGrippto
Loughlin

Nays:

Absent: Arena
Kimmins

Della Fera
Oliveira
Stokes
Mayor Skibitsky

Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee

Code Review & Town Property Committee

Public Works Committee

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilman Oliveira, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, seconded by Councilman Della Fera were unanimously adopted.

(38) WHEREAS, a need existed for the contract rental of privately owned equipment for use by the Department of Public Works in the 2015 Leaf Collection Program, as provided for in Public Works account 137-246, and

WHEREAS, various contracts were awarded to the low bidders to perform the necessary work, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30 provides for increases in the contract price for unanticipated adjustments through Change Order and Council Resolution, and

WHEREAS, conditions were encountered during the leaf collection program that necessitated additional work from the equipment than had been originally anticipated, and

WHEREAS, Certificate of the Town Treasurer, certifying to the availability of adequate funds for the changed contract price, as described below, prepared in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30 1.10 has been furnished to the Town Clerk. Expenditure of funds to be charged to Public Works Operating Account 137.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Change Order No. 1 in the following amounts be authorized, and

Ameritico Disposal Inc.	increase \$4,000.00
Camarato Trucking	increase \$4,000.00
Galluzzo Brothers Carting	increase \$4,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper Town Officials be, and they are hereby, authorized to make payment and to effect whatever actions are necessary in the execution and discharge of this Change Order for the **2015 Leaf Collection Program**.

Reports of Department Heads

Upon motion by Councilwoman Neylan, seconded by Councilman LoGrippo the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Claire J. Gray

Town Clerk